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Trudi Thompson

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PATENT

Applicant: Williams et al.
Serial No.: 09/553223
Filed: 4/20/2000
Title: A COMBINED RAPID ANTI-MICROBIAL SUSCEPTIBILITY ASSAY & MICROORGANISM IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM
Group Art Unit: 1651
Examiner: H. Gutman
Docket No.: 14598.34

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Dmt
10-12-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 17, 2001, Applicant responds as follows:

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In the Claims

Amend claims 22 and 26 as follows:

- a) 22. A method for simultaneously determining a microorganism's identify and susceptibility to an antimicrobial agent comprising the steps of:
- suspending and homogeneously mixing a volume of microorganism-containing sample into an aqueous medium to prepare an inoculum;
 - admixing said inoculum with growth supporting medium to form a test sample;
 - introducing a predetermined amount of said test sample into a first receptacle within a solid support;
 - introducing a predetermined amount of said test sample into a second receptacle within a solid support;
 - admixing a first assay reagent with the first sample in said first receptacle to form a homogenous suspension prior to conducting a first assay;